

**Resolution authorizing the 2011 payment to Nationwide Children's Hospital in support of efforts to reduce infant mortality in Franklin County (Community Partnerships) (\$500,000)**

**WHEREAS**, Nationwide Children's Hospital is a provider of comprehensive high quality neonatal and pediatric care that is dedicated to providing the highest quality patient care through pediatric research and the education of patients, families and providers; and

**WHEREAS**, Nationwide Children's Hospital is a Medicaid provider, as defined by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, authorized to provide health care for low-income families; and

**WHEREAS**, Nationwide Children's Hospital provides important and necessary medical care to infants and children who suffer from complications associated with premature births and participates in research, clinical, and community outreach initiatives to reduce premature births; and

**WHEREAS**, Franklin County's preterm birth rate of 13 percent is almost double the U.S. public health goal of 6.9 percent and higher than Ohio's overall rate, making premature births one of the most serious health care challenges our county faces; and

**WHEREAS**, infant mortality is a decisive indicator of a community's health status because it reflects in part the general health of women in the community, access to medical services (or lack thereof) for young women, and care provided to infants; and

**WHEREAS**, Nationwide Children's Hospital launched the Ohio Better Birth Outcomes Initiative in 2009, and thereby committed the hospital and its resources to aggressively confronting the issue of premature births and their related chronic health problems; and

**WHEREAS**, via Res. #749-10, approved by the Board of Commissioner on October 5, 2010, Franklin County entered into a five-year, \$7,000,000 agreement with Nationwide Children's Hospital in support of this vital work to reduce infant mortality, particularly for those children and their mothers who otherwise would not have access to needed health care; and

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**WHEREAS**, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners wishes to support this vital work and does so pursuant to Sec. 307.85 of the Ohio Revised Code; now, therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO;

1. That the attached purchase order, as individually described on the accompanying Purchase Order Proof List, with Nationwide Children's Hospital in the amount of \$500,000.00, which represents the 2011 commitment to the Ohio Better Birth Outcomes Initiative, is hereby approved.

Prepared by Kate Matheny

Cc: Auditor

Nationwide Children's Hospital